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November 24, 2003

Chairman Michael Powell
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: WT Docket No. 02-55

Dear Chairman Powell:

I would like to bring to your attention an important issue that impacts our community. The issue is public safety radio interference – a problem in desperate need of a solution. Public safety communications systems and commercial wireless operations are located on adjacent and intermingled channels in the 800 MHz spectrum band. The problem: the technologies used by public safety and commercial wireless are incompatible with one another as neighbors. The result: dangerous interference, which causes garbled communications, creates an officer safety issue at times for my officers, and prevents us from effectively performing our job.

The Consensus Plan, currently under the Commission's consideration, would realign the current jumbled licensing of 800 MHz systems into separate blocks of spectrum for public safety and cellular wireless carriers. By implementing this plan, public safety interference will be virtually eliminated. Also, public safety will receive additional spectrum for future communications needs which we desperately need. Perhaps equally important, the Consensus Plan will be implemented at no cost to the American taxpayer.

The Consensus Plan is the only proactive and comprehensive solution to the dangerous problem of public safety interference. Please support the public safety community and implement the Consensus Plan without delay.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Best regards,

Stan Aston
Chief of Police

CC:
Senator Maria Cantwell
Senator Patty Murray
Congressman Jay Inslee
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Copps
Commissioner Martin
Secretary Dortch